

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated June 14, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-11 and 19-30 are pending. Claims 1, 11, 19, 21, 23 and 25-30 are amended. The amendments to the claims contain no new matter and are supported by the entire specification, including the drawings and the claims.

Claims 11, 19, 21, 23 and 25-30 were objected to and have been amended in a non-narrowing manner to address the items raised by the Examiner.

Claims 1-8, 11 and 19-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu in view of Hogan et al. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites:

"wherein each of said at least one participant party is contacted via said call facility regardless of intention or availability and without a capability of responding or directly communicating with said call facility; and

wherein if one or more participant parties are unavailable for initial audio connection, then said call facility automatically re-attempts audio connection to said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection a predetermined number of times before dropping said one or more participant parties unavailable for initial audio connection."

Support for these features is found at least at page 4, lines 8-11 of Applicant's specification.

Neither Wu nor Hogan teach or suggest these features.

Wu teaches that invitations are sent to potential participants in a conference and the responses to the invitations are collected. The teleconference server collects the positive responses and generates a control script for the telephone conference (see column 10, lines 27-43). When the teleconference is initiated, the telephone conference server initiates calls to selected participants and the coordinator (see column 10, lines 44-53). Therefore, a response to an invitation is essential for the teleconference system of

Wu to operate. Wu fails to teach a system that does not require or accommodate for user responses and fails to teach a system that automatically re-attempts contact to a call facility a predetermined number of times after an unsuccessful initial attempt, as recited in claim 1.

Hogan teaches that an operator informs a participant that his or her conference is set to begin and asks whether he or she wishes to participate (see column 16, lines 40-46). Therefore, a response is required in the teleconferencing system of Hogan to operate. Hogan fails to teach a system that does not require or accommodate for user responses and fails to teach a system that automatically re-attempts contact to a call facility a predetermined number of times after an unsuccessful initial attempt, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the above reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Wu in view of Hogan.

Claims 2-8, 11, 20-22, 24, 25, 27 and 28 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Wu and Hogan for at least the reasons advanced with reference to claim 1.

Claims 19, 23 and 26 include features similar to those discussed above with reference to claim 1 and are patentable over Wu and Hogan for at least the reasons advanced with reference to claim 1.

Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu in view of Hogan et al. and further in view of Roy. Roy was relied upon for disclosing that a host destination is an Internet Protocol (IP) address. Roy, however, fails to cure the deficiencies of Wu and Hogan as discussed above. Thus claims 9 and 10 are patentable over Wu and Hogan in view of Roy for at least the reasons advanced with respect to claim 1.

Claims 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu in view of Hogan et al. and further in view of Buskirk, Jr. Buskirk, Jr. was relied upon for disclosing that a host destination is an Internet Service Provider (ISP). Buskirk, Jr., however, fails to cure the deficiencies of Wu and Hogan as discussed above. Thus claims 29 and 30 are patentable over Wu and Hogan in view of Buskirk, Jr. for at least the reasons advanced with respect to claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone

conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicant's attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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